HIDDEN WONDERS REVEALED

Some Things That Make the Microscopist Enthusiastic in His Pursuits.

Nature and Man's Handiwork as Shown on the Stides of an Instrument in Bringing Out Curious Forms and Colors.

The man with a scientific hobby is the most entertaining and instructive talker one can meet. He imparts information as the April clouds bestow showers, and having done so beams as benignant as a rainbow on the mortals he has refreshed. This city, proportioned to its numbers, has more microscopists than any place in the United States, and several of them take high rank in that absorbing science. The other day a Journal reporter dropped into the office of a physician who is the Abou ben Adhem of squinters through these marvelous magnifiers, for, in his enthusiasm, he "leads all the rest."

He insisted that the reporter look the cylinder while he showed him some wonderful things. "Here's the Lord's Prayer," said the Doctor, putting a slide under the microscope and arranging the reflector, "written on a space so small that at the same rate the whole Bible and one-tenth beside could be placed on a square inch. Think of the ounning of the human hand that can exe-cute such a delicate work as that!" The re-

cute such a delicate work as that?" The reporter looked and marveled.

"Here's another slide," continued the Doctor. "There was a man working at chemistry who got in a test tube some strangely beautiful crystals of copper, so much more gorgeous than anything of the kind ever before seen that he mounted ther. That slide cost \$75." The glory of the solors was indescribable—far above that of any royal lewels. The next specimen placed theri. That slide cost \$75." The glory of the solors was indescribable—far above that of any royal jewels. The next specimen placed under the magnifier was one showing crystals of gold. This was a forest of golden ferns, of more wonderful beauty of form than any conservatory can show in plants. "Here's a gold dollar fresh from the mint," the Doctor remarked. "You are tooking at it through a very low power." The coin, smooth to the naked eye, showed as rough and crinkled as a washboard, and the ear of the Goddess of Liberty was covered with scratches as though she had been recently engaged in a dispute with a neighbor.

been recently engaged in a dispute with a neighbor.

The next object shown was a section of a cat's tooth, and the soft tissue attached, a slice one hundredth of an inch thick. Following this came slides made by Fassold, of Albany, on which were arranged lines crossing each other one-hundred thousandth of an inch apart, a feat of handwork that appeared almost incredible. Next came a number of slides showing diatoms arranged by the late Dr. F. S. Newcomer, who was an enthusiastic microscopist. Diatoms, for the berefit of the unprofessional, are a family of silicious animalculæ, now regarded as belonging to the vegetable hingdom, and the smallest members of that kingdom, and the smallest members of that kingdom. They appeared as kaleidescopic figures, and were beautiful in their exact geometric arrangement. This was followed by other diatoms mounted by Moller, a German, who is one of the most famous in this work. Some time ago it was discovered that different tissues in the little plants would take up, as by natural selection, different tints. That is, that when placed upon a mixture of colors one part would take up a green tint and another a violet; it is the little spines in the interior cells that take up one tint, and the cell structure itself that takes up another.

The Doctor made another foray among the slides, containing specimens from the vegetable kingdom, and produced one exhibiting some minute crystals of berberine, a yellow, bitter principle obtained from the barberry. This was quite as interesting as any that had gone before. "May be you think a blow-fly doesn't amount to much; here's his head," remarked the microcopist as, with assumed self-possession, he watched the reporter's countenance as the latter gazed on the horrid head of the insect. "Here's a piece of a man's scalp cut across to show the hair coming up through the skin."

"What, that piece of pine board filled

"What, that piece of pine board filled with auger holes?"

"Yes. Here's the hair root and the follicle. You see that little thing like a saddle bag? That's what makes the oil for the hair. Here's a beetle under very low power, for the bug is a quarter of an inch long." It was spangled with jewels, more radiant than those found by Aladdin in the cave with the wonderful lamp. Then the Doctor showed more distoms; these came from the Japanese sea of Arafura, four hundred fathoms down and fifty of them could be placed on the point of a needle.

"The power of the microscope," remarked the exhibitor, "does not depend upon its size nor the beauty of its mountings. The objective and the eye-piece are all that are material, the rest are mere accessories. Take that objective and eye-piece and put them in a tin-dipper handle and you would get as good results as anywhere else—if you knew how. Here's a photograph of Landseer's well-known dog-head picture. On that scale the whole side of the journal would just fill the field of the microscope. That sort of work is called photo-micrography, and it has been carried to a wonderful state of perfection."

Here the Doctor, as he showed the blood-

Here the Doctor, as he showed the bloodcells of a lizard, began a brief dissertation on the microscopic character of different kinds of animal blood. "I was once," said he, "furnished a sample of blood in a case where a woman claimed to have hemor-rhages. She represented that the blood came from her lungs. She was suspected of malingering, that is, feigning a disease, and when I put the blood-cell under the microscope that truth-teller disclosed the fact that it was oval and not round. The blood of a fowl is oval. Had she used dog's blood the game might have succeeded, for the cell of that, like the human blood-cell,

The reporter then looked at a slide of diatoms which a genius had gold plated. They were scattered over the field and looked like Chinese cash. Then a slide was shown, upon which were arranged minute grains of gold. They were in a fluid and in motion, turning over in a weird, grotesque way, like the walking stones told of by Hans Christian Andersen. Next came a view of the whelck, the microbe that perforates the oyster shell and kills the delicious bivalve within, an enemy much dreaded by the oysterman. A piece of the stomach of a frog was then exhibited, a panoramic possession that any frog should be proud of, and perhaps is, to an extent to swell him up to the size told of by old Æsop when he discovered the batrachisn trying to bring himself up to the dimen-sions of the patient ox. One of the most beautiful specimens then came in a slide showing an iron ore from Colorado, called peacock ore because of the gorgeous coloring shown under the microscope. It had all the colors of the rainbow and was ever-

But the best had been saved for the last. "Here," said the enthusiast, "are six slides worth more than all my microscopical out-fit. These are to a microscopist what a Raphael is to a painter, something not merely to wonder at but to reverence, almost adore. These are slides of the great Dalton, and many the last work he ever did. for the hand of the master lost its cunning." Upon these slides were arranged microscopic pictures of baskets of flowers with butterflies hovering over them, vases with birds flying about and drinking from their edges, all perfect in form and of most radiant colors. "The colors with which those marvelous works of art are made. said the Doctor, "are taken from beetles and the wings of butterflies. They are the work of a genius, Harold Dalton, an English microscopist who has had several imitators but not one to approach him in the beauty and delicacy of his work. He became dissipated; going to and from between London to Paris to avoid creditors. His life-work as a microscopic artist is ended."

THE COMRADE EXCITED.

Sportive Democrats Arouse the Wrath of Veteran Tarkington, Who Denounces Everybody.

Old "Comrade" Tarkington gave the rest of the Democratic clerks in the city comptroller's office such a surprise the other norning that they are considering a propo sition to rename him "Talkington." They have a facetious habit of "guying" the transit Company? What assurance is there that it will not get the plant half way up comrade about what they term "the old and then drop the whole business?"

soldier racket," with which he "worke"
Democratic office-holders for clerkships.
They were engaged in this pleasing diversion Friday morning, when the comrade burst out with a little plain Democratic talk that was horrifying, particularly as a Journal reporter happened to be in the

"Why, Comrade," Sam Perrott was say-ing, "the old soldiers have all the offices ing, "the old soldiers have all the offices now and have eaten up everything in the treasury that we poor tax-payers have paid in until now there is a deficiency."

"Aw! deficiency bed—d!" retorted the comrade. "Talk about deficiencies! Look at county Board of Commissioners! Got the county head over heels in debt, and then go off and squander \$50,000 for a new jail site, when they already have any amount of idle ground! And they load the county up with another daily expense year in and year out, transferring prisoners! They're a d-n fine crowd, ain't they now! Those fellows handle an immense amount of money, and look how they do it! Why don't they get somebody with some sense! There's that man Spencer, who runs the whole business, Heavy man, ain't be, now! If Senator McDonald should die the world might jog along, but if Spencer should die! Well, I'm d-n glad he's in good heaith!"

DOWN ON COMMISSION ROW.

Vegetables and Fruits from Everywhere to Supply This and Many Other Markets.

There is at few times of the year, and never during the summer, a busier locality in the city of Indianapolis than that part of South Delaware street lying between Washington and Maryland streets. It has within the past five years been taken possession of by commission dealers in fruits and vegetables. Here the sidewalks are piled high with garden truck and fruits and there are always crowds of bargaining retail grocers and costermongers elbowing each other as they move from one establishment to another. These

The vegetable season, so far as the Indianapolis commission-houses are concerned, iss long one, beginning in February and continuing until snow flies. The season opens with garden truck from Florida, Louisians and Texas and goes on until the local crop comes in, and then the vegetable is pursued northward until it can only find asfety by crossing the line into Canada. That delightful small fruit, the strawberry, is pursued with relentless vigor from the time it first makes its appearance in the land of the orange and the alligator until it disappears in Manitoba, making a strawberry season of about three months. It is the same way with potatoes when the crop is short, but this year there will be no call from this market for Michigan-grown potatoes, the indications being that the Indiana supply will be greater and better in quality than it has been for years.

Eight to ten car-loads of bananas come to these commission-houses almost every week in the year, and all the year round. In the summer they come in refrigerator cars; in the winter in ears that are heated. Upon arrival, if the weather is cold, they are carefully wrapped in gunny-bags. The commission houses of this city are looked to by all the best cities and towns of the State for supplies, which was not the case five or six years ago. The only towns that do not patronize this market are those that are much nearer Cincinnati and Chicago. Louisville is hardly looked upon as a competitor for Indianatrade, as Indianapolis houses sell as far south as Seymour. Among the cities that are considered the best patrons of this market are Anderson, Muncie, Marion, Hartford City, Kokomo, Noblesville, Frankfort, Lebanon. Thorntown, Crawfordsville, Wabash, Peru and Columbus.

Peanuts are handled by Indianapolis commission men in great quantities, but the gouber pea is not in really active demand until the season of county fairs sets in. The coffee-roasting houses are then called upon to give ther the proper fisvor before they are turned over the branch of the water wore

Apples have been received from Tennes-see, but for the past four or five days ship-ments of Early Harvest and Red Astrachan have come from southern Illinois. Peaches from Tennessee have appeared, but a shipment or two the latter part of the week was received from southern Illinois. These for the most part are poor and such ship-ments are discouraged, but within a week this fruit will be sent from southern Indi-ana and it will be excellent because it will be fresh-gathered in the morning and the next morning will be in the hands of the

dealer and the consumer. These dealers have come together on Delaware street because it is to their interest. Here, indeed, competition is the life of trade, and all do a thriving business. The aggregate sales of these houses are over \$2,000,000 a year, and at this season their trade demands from \$30 to \$40 a day in telegraph tolls, for when green stuff and pershable fruits are wanted everybody must be on the jump.

WHY THEY DID NOT BID.

Electric-Light Companies Not Tying up Capital for Needs of a City Financially Cramped.

The electric-light men, when charged with conspiring to give the Board of Public Works the cold anub delivered to it when no bids for the lighting plant appeared, smile and softly deny. They deny much more vigorously when a general combination among the electric companies is suggested. So far as the matter can be sifted down it seems probable that there was no regular agreement to pool issues, but all, or nearly all, the companies were aware of the fact that the others did not intend to bid. "I don't think it requires an electrical expert," said a business man yesterday, "to discover the chief trouble with those specifications. It lies in the financial necessities of the case. Electric companies are not going about the country tying up their capital in plants to be paid for on long time. The only way they will put in a plant for the city, to be paid for in installments running ten years, s by bonding it for the same period, using the payments by the city to take up the bonds. Now that clause in the specifications giving the city the option of buying the plant at any time during the ten years knocks any bond scheme into a cocked hat. Under such an arrangement the bonds would have to be subject to call at any time, and a call bond cannot be disposed of in the open market. This same point was explained in the Council a year ago, and there is no excuse for ignorance of it on the part of of those 'typical business men' who compose the Board of Public Works.

"The whole thing," he continued, "seems to be reduced down to a possible bid from the Edison company. Knowing that it is the only one in the field, its bid will prob-ably be plenty high enough. Then, sup-pose it does get a contract. Who will have any confidence that it will be fulfilled, tract as that with the Broad Rippie Rapid-

Some People Are Disposed to Blame

That eminent navigator, Christopher Columbus, for aving brought into our politics the troublesome Indian question; But.

Everybody hails him as a benefactor for having given to the world the continent that grows that best of all creature comforts, TOBACCO. How was it possible for the sons of men to survive from the morning of Adam's creation until A. D. 1492 without the consolation of the fragrant weed?

YOU WHO READ THIS ADVERTISEMENT OF OUR

INION LEAGUE CLUB

CIGAR

Are offered a delight unknown to Christopher Columbus, Jean Nicot, Sir Walter Raleigh and Jimmy the First of England—the most complete and satisfactory smoke it is possible to produce for TEN CENTS.

We present the UNION LEAGUE CLUB CIGAR to the public in full confidence that it is THE CHOICEST TEN-CENT CIGAR in the market and without a rival.

The "UNION LEAGUE CLUB" is a seed and Havana—a combination that is the ne plus ultra in cigar manufacture when, as in this case, the choicest and most delicately flavored leaf is used.

The filler of the UNION LEAGUE CLUB comes from the famous Vuelta Abajo district, and is the highest-priced and finest of true Havana tobaccos.

A GREAT DEAL OF MONEY

Is expended all over the country in advertising CHEAP cigars. We propose to spend a little money in advertising this TEN-CENT CIGAR, and will have the satisfaction of introducing a thoroughly good article.

All reputable dealers keep the UNION LEAGUE CLUB. Ask for it. One trial will assure you of its excellence.

RIERRA (CO

WHOLESALE AGENTS, INDIANAPOLIS.

FRATERNITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

Odd-Fellows. Indianapolis Lodge conferred the degrees

Friday night. U. Z. Wiley, D. G. M., Thursday, resusci-tated Goodland Lodge.

The degree staff of Meridian Lodge is get-ting in first-class shape. The Odd-fellows and their families will have a picnic at Grandview Park, next Thursday afternoon.

The grand master delivered an address on the 20th, at Lexington, at a union meeting of all the lodges in Scott county. Meridian Lodge will confer the initiatory degree upon three applicants, next Wednesday evening, and elect officers for the en-

A D. of R. lodge was instituted at Gosport, on the 16th, with fifty-nine members. The degree staff of Fidelity Lodge, of this city, conferred the work in a very creditable manner.

This city and suburbs now has twelve subordinate and three Rebekan lodges, two encampments and a canton. All the lodges have work. It has been a prosperous year for the order in this city up to this

A district meeting of all the surrounding lodges will be held at Lafayette, July 10. U. Z. Wiley, D. G. M., Hon. John B. Cockrum, George Shirts, W. H. Talbott and the grand master will take part in the work. district meeting is also to occur at Mitchell on Aug. 5.

Chosen Friends. Union Council is to have a moonlight pic-

Eureka Council nominated officers Thurslay evening. Marion Council will nominate officers at te next meeting. Venus Council initiated two candidates

Tuesday evening last. Universal Council has had two deaths within the last month. True Friend ladies will have an evening picnic-within a short time.

Grand Councilor Luther, who is also chairman of the finance committee, will be in the city in a short time, to meet the visiting Louisville members.

Order of Equity. New members are being added rapidly to Indianapolis Council will hold its semi-annual election of officers next Thursday evening. There will be several candidates

for membership initiated. The supreme secretary, W. F. Lander, has been away for the past three weeks on an official trip. Five new councils are reported as the result of his work. The supreme councilor, Gen. James R.

Carnahan, has, during the past two weeks, visited each council in this city, and found them in a prosperous condition. Equitas Council, at its last meeting, elected the following officers for the ensuing term: Past councilor, W. S. Lockman; councilor, Harry G. Castor; vice-councilor, Mrs. J. F. Weber; secretary and collector, J. F. Weber; treasurer, Frank G. Castor; adjuster, Miss' Neilie Urban; chaplain, Harry Malone; marshal, John Isaacs; guardian, Albert T. Layton; sentry, Chas.

Knights and Ladies of Honor. Washington Lodge will give a social tomorrow evening.

Hope Loage will have a picnic at Hammond's grove, Thursday, July 16. Marion Lodge will give an entertainment of tableaux and musical exercises at its hall, in the When Block, next Wednesday

Hope Lodge conferred the degree upon one applicant last Tuesday evening. There were members present from Washington and Marion lodges. Mr. J. F. Crowe, of Eureka, Col., and chairman of the committee on law of the

Supreme Lodge, visited the supreme officers here the past week. Past Supreme Protector Frank D. Macbeth delivered an address at the union meeting given by the lodges of Chicago, last Tuesday evening.

Committees from all other city lodges with Elizabeth Lodge last Friday evening to arrange for entertaining the Grand Lodge at its session here. Gustave Pink. of Elizabeth Lodge, was selected as chair-

man and Mrs. Lena Goodspeed, of Marion Lodge, secretary of the general committee. Pleasant Lodge, of Brightwood, will have work in the degree next Thursday evening. This lodge has made a net gain of forty members the past year. It established a side degree nearly two years ago and it has proved a great success.

Officers during the week will be selected by Compton and Phonix lodges Wednes-day, Pleasant and Indiana, Thursday, and ElizabethonFriday evening, while Washing-ton, Hope, Hoosier, Martha and Marion will not elect officers until the week following. Other Orders.

Victoria Lodge, Knights of Honor, will have two caudidates for the degree to-morrow evening. The work will be done by the degree staff.

The members of Banner and Center councils of the People's Favorite Order were guests of Brightwood Council, at its lawn fete, Friday evening.

ROB ROY'S GREAT CLAYMORE.

The Sword of Clan Alpine's Chieftain Is in Brooklyn.

Over in Brooklyn in a nook of the hall of the Long Island Historical Society a great broad-sword lies on a long desk. Singularly peaseful are all the surroundings, and it is hard to believe, seeing the blade lying there, that it ever figured in the wild and bloody scenes that it did. Yet if you take it up and examine it you will find many a dint and nick in the good steel. When that famous character whom Scott painted in such a masterly style, Rob Roy Mac-Gregor Campbell, was dying, so the story runs, he was told that a man with whom he had been at enmity was about to visit

him.
"Raise me from my bed," he said, when he heard this, "throw my plaid around me and bring me my claymore, dirk and pistols. It shall never be said that a foeman saw Rob Roy MacGregor defenseless

This story may or may not be true, but at any rate, the great sword that rests so peacefully in the Brooklyn Historical Hall is the very one that was wielded by the re-doubtable chieftain of Clan Alpine in many a bloody fray on the Scotch border and in the Highlands. It is now the property of a descendant of the famous chief of the Mac-Gregor Clan, Mr. John MacGregor, who exhibited it at the Centennial in Philadelphia in 1876, and who allows it to be exhibited in the halls of the Long Island

Historical Society. We read that Rob Roy was under rather than over medium height, but very mus-cular, and muscular indeed he must have been to wield this sword with effect, for it is no weapon for a weakling to play with. The blade is full five feet long, broad and two edged, and weighs some fifteen pounds. It is of the finest tempered steel, and it must have been a right serviceable weapon in its day. Its handle is protected by a basket hilt of strongly wrought brass, so arranged as to allow the swordsman to use either one or two hands. The sheath was of leather bound with bands of brass, and this brass-work is about all that is left of it now. Tied to the handle is a worn piece of leather on which the name of Rob Roy was once written with some white substance. The first letter has been torn av ay

but the others remain.

Except for the few nicks before referred to, the blade and hilt of the old claymore are as good as when Rob Roy himself kept them clean and bright. But as a matter of fact the sword saw service before Rob Roy himself buckled it at his side, for his father, Col. Donald MacGregor, of Glenfoyle, wore and wielded it in the wars of the Covenanters and Cavaliers.
Rob Roy himself lies in the churchyard

of the Parish of Balgubidder, and his tombstone is a rough representation of his broadsword. The broadsword famous in song and story rests peacefully in its nook, and will be wielded in the wars of the clans no more. But if that claymore could speak what a tale it might tell.

Humanity's Failing.

It is very much easier for the average man to make a sacrifice for a friend than it is to resist telling him afterward that it

Not So with Terrestrial Law-Makers Indianapolis Ram's Horn. God never makes a law that He does IRELAND AND THE IRISH.

The Bishop of Kildare has gone to reside

in Carlow. At Kilrush several evictions have taken place lately on the Bandaleur estate.

The Goldsmiths' Company, of Lonodn, gave \$250 to Irish distressed ladies' fund. Mr. Mulhallan, M. P., has had a bad at-

tack of la grippe and has had to return to Mr. Tener, Lord Clanricarde's agent, has a guard of policemen who accompany him

on all occasions. The prices obtained for stock at all late fairs show a considerable fall. Horses only keep up at their former value.

A small farmer named Ivory, residing at Cruftonstown, near Delmer, Dublin county, while insane, murdered his wife.

Dr. Castelloe, son of a former resident of Tuam, has been appointed to the medical charge of dispensary district No. 2. The Clerehaw branch of the Irish Na-

tional Federation has subscribed \$130 toward the relief of evicted tenants. The new contractor has commenced work on the Galway & Clifden line, and is pushing on the work as rapidly as possible.

Colonel Chichester, of Runnamost. Roscommon county, is dead. He was an extensive land-owner, and rather a good land

The widow of the late Mr. James Redfern, a well-known sculptor, who was a native of Ireland, has secured a civil-service pension of \$750 per annum.

The Westport Board of Guardians have applied for their share of the \$200,000 which has been granted by the government for the erection of laborers' cottages.

Mr. Redmond McDonagh, solicitor of Galway, has gone to Denver to recruit his health, his physician having advised him to try the efficacy of the climate there.

Mr. William O'Brien, it is said, will have his new novel completed by the time he will be liberated from Galway prison. He works from early morning until late at

Seven out of ten horses, the property of a hotel-keeper near Maynooth, were maliciously poisoned last week. A quart of arsenic was found in their stomachs and in-

The Belfast shipbuilding-yards are successfully competing with those on the Clyde, and are turning out vessels of from four thousand to five thousand tons meas-

Mr. Howard St. George, a Galway gentleman, has started for the United States, to be married, on his arrival at New York, to a Miss Baker, the eldest daughter of a leading backer of that city. At the Armagh poor-house a rat-catcher

is employed, and at the last meeting of the Board of Guardians the sum of \$10 was voted as his remuneration for killing seven hundred rate during the past year. Mr. McPhilphin, proprietor of the Tuam

News, an anti-Parnellite journal, circulating in Connaught, is visiting the United States. He intends to make a tour through the principal cities of this country. The members of the Galway Hunt are to

give a grand ball in honor of their late master. Mr. Persse, who is about to return to Australia, Mr. Persse only returned two or three years ago from the antipodes, where he had accumulated a large fortune.

Sequal, the great Yankee quack doctor, who has been curing hundreds in the city of Tuam and its vicinity, his forte being all forms of rheumatic affections, received quite an ovation last week on the eve of his departure from Tuam. There was a large bonfire, those whom he had cured came to bid him good-bye, and when he

was about to drive to his rooms at the Imperial Hotel, the horses were taken from his carriage, and scores of men dragged the vehicle to the entrance of the hotel.

Mr. James Quinn, a farmer, living at Glencull, Tyrone county, was brutally assaulted while on his way home from mar-ket, by a number of young men, sons of farmers. It is feared that Quinn will not

Thirty-four tenants on the estate of Lord Renman have been served with notices of eviction for arrears of rent. They owe from two to eight years' rent, but their holdings are miserably small and of very inferior land.

The Hon. Mr. J. Flately, a native of Mayo county, died the other day at Boston, Mass. He emigrated when only a boy, and his first employment after landing was at the Jefferson House, of that city. He died the sole proprietor of that well-known

Fears are entertained that the land-purchase bill-now before the House of Commons-which would be, if passed, the tenant-farmer, may not become a law this session, owing to the slow progress it

It is said that the following members of the Irish Parliamentary party will not offer themselves for re-election to their repective constituences at the forthcoming general election: Justin Huntly McCarthy, W. J. Lane, Mr. Gilhooly, Sir John Pope Hennessy and probably Dr. Tanner.

Mr. McNeil, M. P. made a savage onslaught on Judge O'Flanagan in the House last week. He said he was the first to obstruct land purchases, and that he had been rewarded for taking that course by a seat in the English Privy Council. On being re-buked by the Irish Attorney-general he said he was ready to repeat his accusation.

A meeting of herds was held lately at Attenry, Galway county. The object of the meeting was to establish a branch of the Herds Association. It is time that these men, whose work is of such an onerous as well as responsible nature, should demand for themselves increased remuneration. They are, without doubt, the worst paid

men in Ireland. About a dozen of the most influential parishioners had an interview with Father Lyons, at his residence in the town of Castlebar, Mayo county, about the completion of the church commenced by Father Magee. It was decided that the work should be pushed as rapidly as possible, and the few present agreed to contribute \$2,500 toward its completion.

A very important alteration is to be made in the Irish land-purchase bill. Mr. Balfour is the originator of the proposed clause. It is to limit the operations of the bill to holdings that are not valued at more than \$150 per annum rental. This alteration would affect 71,000 holdings. The total number of agricultural holdings in Ireland which were calculated upon by the government, when they framed the land-pur-chase bill, was 584,000. It is feared now that the \$150,000,000 proposed to be advanced to the Irish tenants will not be sufficient. This is the reason why the \$150 limit is advocated by Mr. Balfour.

Fortune-Telling Slot Machines.

Philadelphia Inquirer.

"Ye passers-by who want some fun, drop in your nickel and make me run," is the inscription upon a monster brass plate that

adorns the latest nickel-in-the-slot machine. Though introduced but a few weeks ago it has commanded a large share of patronage in hotel lobbies and public places. Its faccination seems to be in giving a dip into the future. In short, it is a fortune-telling apparatus. A revolving disk contains the picture of a fascinating spanish maiden whose dainty tapering fingers point to the mottoes on the outer circumference that predict all sorts of ridiculous fates. One of the machines in a cafe so captivated the waiters that they